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**Note by the Secretary-General**

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## **1. Global NeuroCare**

(Special; 2013)

### **Introduction**

NeuroCare Ethiopia is dedicated to improving neurological care in developing nations, predominantly in sub-Saharan Africa and especially Ethiopia.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization carries out its mission of improving neurological care by collaborating with local partners to advance patient care, physician training and medical research.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There are no significant changes except for a pending application to change the name NeuroCare Ethiopia to Global NeuroCare.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

NeuroCare Ethiopia collaborates with Addis Ababa University and facilitates international educational partnerships to support a neurology residency program training local physicians in sustainable evidence based medical care while encouraging universal respect for human rights. The program has graduated 30 neurologists who are now treating tens of thousands more patients and teaching the general physicians how to manage common neurological problems. The organization's policy guidance on sustainable development comports with SDG 3, assisting the ECOSOC in reporting recommendations and conclusions to the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives submitted Statement E/2016/NGO/53 Global Health: Sustainable Development. 2016 Session of the United Nations ECOSOC, Agenda for Sustainable Development, High Level Political Forum. NY, United States, 11-20 July 2016.

Representatives lectured at the Inaugural Symposium Medical Ethics and Research Ethics coordinated by the Ethiopian Medical Association, Addis Ababa University and World Health

Organization. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 7-8 February 2013.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Representatives presented Medical Ethics in the Developing World at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Association for Education in Ethics. Ankara, Turkey, 21-23 May 2014.

Representatives served as examiners, prepared and submitted an annual Summary Report on the Addis Ababa University Neurology Residency Training Program to international partners, World Federation of Neurology and World Health Organization in each reporting year.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The NGO contributed to MDGs 4, 5, 6 in Ethiopia and neighbouring countries by advancing a training program which recruited, trained and graduated 30 neurologists, providing medical services to tens of thousands of patients, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and combating infectious and non-communicable diseases throughout the reporting period. After 2015 these same initiatives contributed to SDG 3.1-3.4, 3.C, 3.D. In advancing these initiatives, representatives provided medical services, teaching and research, facilitated international scholarships, and donated books and medical equipment. The organization supported the overall development agenda through advocacy and outreach.

## **2. International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations**

(Special; 1997)

### **Introduction**

FIAMC is the World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations (the letters F.I.A.M.C. are taken from the French name of the organization: "Fédération Internationale des Associations Médicales Catholiques"). French was its first official language. FIAMC is made up of about 80 National Catholic

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The aims of FIAMC are listed in its official Statutes and are as follows:

- 1) To coordinate the efforts of Catholic Medical Associations in the study and spread of Christian principles throughout the world.
- 2) To encourage the development of Catholic Medical Associations in all countries in order to assist the Catholic Physician in his moral and spiritual development as well as in his technical advancement.
- 3) To take part in the general development of the medical profession and to promote health and social work in accordance with the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.
- 4) To devote itself to the study of medico-ethical problems and their practical and theoretical solution.
- 5) To establish models of cooperation in health and pastoral care with developing countries.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

1) FIAMC organizes a World Congress which is held every four years in different areas of the world. These Congresses are held during the meeting of the General Assembly of FIAMC. At these Congresses, papers are presented and discussed to keep Catholic Physicians current on medico-ethical problems and their solutions within the teachings of the Church.

Topics of professional discuss and debate have included: the Problem of World Population,

the Conservation of Life, the Freedom of The Children of God, the Quality of Life in a Changing Society, the physician in the Service of Life. Speakers at these meetings are usually international experts in their field. 2) Regional Congresses are held in different regions of FIAMC. These meetings are held two years after each World Congress. Here again, these meetings are intended to assist the physician in joining his faith with the practice of medicine. 3) FIAMC maintains a website and bulletin to discuss current medico-legal issues affecting the delivery of healthcare internationally.

4) FIAMC has helped to establish a Bio-Medical Ethics Centre in Bombay, India, to study ethical problems which arise as the result of the rapid advances in medical technology. This Centre extensively organizes meetings and publications.

5) FIAMC serves as a clearing house for projects and needs expressed by Catholic organizations throughout the world, giving counsel, recommendations, and support to them. Health care projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America were carried out under the patronage of FIAMC and with the active involvement of member associations or Mater Care International.

6) FIAMC produces press releases and official Documents about Medicine and Medical Ethics.

FIAMC is member of the Catholic-inspired NGOs FORUM.

FIAMC cooperates with the international federations of Catholic nurses (CICIAMS) and pharmacists (FIPC).

FIAMC is member of Crescendo network for a more human and Christian ageing.

FIAMC cooperates with the United Nations.

FIAMC sponsors special awards on Science and Faith and on Bioethics.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

FIAMC attends and supports meetings and side events which occur each year during the Commission on the Status of Women, participating in dialogue regarding issues relating to women's reproductive healthcare.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

No cooperation was specified.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Health care projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America were carried out under the patronage of FIAMC and with the active involvement of member associations or Mater Care International. MaterCare, a member of FIAMC, is an organization of Catholic health professionals dedicated to the care of mothers and babies, improving the lives and health of mothers and babies, both born and unborn, through new initiatives of service, training, research, and advocacy designed to reduce the tragic levels of abortion world-wide and maternal and perinatal mortality, morbidity in developing countries.

### **3. National Association of Cuban Economists**

(Special; 1997)

#### **Introduction**

The National Economists and Accountants Association of Cuba (ANEC), is an NGO founded in June 14 of 1979, which has near to 80,000 professionals in diverse economic fields integrated in more than 5,000 basic units and has an structure organized with some bodies as a National Committee, National Executive Committee and National Board. At territorial level the organization integrate 15 provincial committees and 169 municipal committees.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Through a Postgraduate Studies Center the Association contributed to upgrade the skills of associates in many economical subjects, in order to accurate their capabilities, at the same time the action of his 16 scientific research associations open space to studies about economical behavior in national and international economy, increasing the relationship with professionals and international organizations linked with economical sciences, in special with task forces of the Economic and Social Council of United Nations.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Association contributed to achieve the development agenda of ECOSOC and United Nations by different activities related with her role as president, treasurer and permanent secretary of Latin American and Caribbean Economist Association and member of board or representative in more than dozen international organizations in auditing, accountability, cooperatives, budgeting, financing, between others. The organization coordinated and hosted events related with development sustainability during the evaluated period and participate in meetings and academic congresses about issues listed in development agenda as: International Congress on Economic Management and Development [IX International Meeting of Accountability, Auditing and Finances; III International Meeting on Public Administration

for Development; I International Meeting on Economic Theory and Development; II International Meeting on Cooperatives], Cuba, (2013); XIV Scientific Workshop “International Politics Scenarios 2014 – 2020” (2013). International Seminar about Cooperatives, Dominican Republic (2013, 2014, 2015). X International Meeting on Accountability, Auditing and Finances, Cuba (2014); XIII Congress of Economists “Globalization and Development Problems” in Panama (2015); II International Congress on Economic Management and Development [XI International Meeting on Accountability, Auditing and Finances; IV International Meeting on Public Administration for Development; III II International Meeting on Cooperatives, I International Meeting of Management and Entrepreneurial Administration], Cuba (2016); International Seminary “Regional Integration in Latin America, Caribbean and CELAC” (2016); III International Congress of Economic Sciences. Guatemala (2016); XV National Congress of Economic Sciences, Guatemala (2016); International Seminary “Modelo de Desarrollo para América Latina e o Caribe” Brasil (2016). Meetings to elevate the international collaboration with NGOs from Germany, Canada and others, as UNDP; “Hans Seidel Foundation”, OXFAM, CARE International, between others.

The Association is participating in the actions of the Commission for Implementation and Development of the Cuban Guidelines for Upgrade the National Economic and Social Model through their temporary groups and the Scientific Council in order to evaluate the regulatory frame and the economic policies and instruments to ensure the goals which are conceived in the national strategic plan toward 2030.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

ANEC has been very active with tasks concerning the Second Commission of the U.N. (ECOSOC). Especially with issues related to the development agenda (Objective for development of the Millennium (ODM), development finance and more recently Development Agenda for 2030 which has established the Objectives of Sustainable Development. ANEC has been following very closely all details of the Meetings about Development Finance, held in Addis Ababa in 2015.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

ANEC has had some meetings with the representation in Cuba of UNDP, in order to participate in some programs which will be develop in Cuba between 2017 and 2020, some meetings has being with Ricardo Núñez, Official of the UNDP Cuban branch.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

ANEC participated in Cuban governmental meetings as member of Advisor Group and Task Force of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and member of the Cuban Association of United Nations for analysis of documents and proposals related to Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals from United Nations. The organization has two main publications: Newspaper El Economista, with one page dedicated to development problems and solutions and the scientific review in economic sciences EKOTEMAS, which have a section for principal international tendencies on economic sciences related to development and sustainability.

#### **4. National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials**

(Special; 2005)

##### **Introduction**

The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) is the leading housing and community development advocate for the provision of adequate and affordable housing and strong, viable communities for all Americans— particularly those with low- and moderate-incomes. Our members administer federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs such as Public Housing, Section 8 rental assistance Vouchers, Community Development Block Grants and the Home rental assistance program.

##### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The aims of NAHRO are to inspire and engage professionals in housing, community development, finance, government, and social services in collaboration with residents to create attainable and sustainable housing and communities for vulnerable families and individuals.

##### **Significant changes in the organization**

The NAHRO Chief Executive Officer resigned in 2016. An extensive search for a new Chief Executive Officer was set in motion, with Adrienne Todman named to start in June 2017. NAHRO also signed a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Australasian Housing Institute (AHI).

##### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

NAHRO's work during the reporting period consisted of following the development of the Habitat III Conference (HIII). NAHRO's contribution included widespread publicity of the HIII among its 18,000 members and a major effort to engage in the planning and attendance at the Conference. Publicity and follow up activity is being planned to monitor NAHRO's work in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and engage the membership in specific activities that implement and further those goals.

INTA and CHRA. NAHRO published its first full length research report on the growing

international trend of transfer of social housing developments to the private non-profit sector. The outcomes of this practice was studied in the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Canada and the United States.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

NAHRO actively engaged with the preparations of the Habitat III Conference and actively stimulated member attendance at the Conference at which 11 NAHRO members attended. A NAHRO member was selected to serve on one of ten policy units leading up to Habitat III. Earlier in the reporting period, NAHRO members participated in the activities leading up to the Conference. These included meetings in Washington, D.C., United States, in December 2014 and Denver, Colorado, United States, in April 2016. A NAHRO member participated in the General Assembly of Partners and will continue that work as part of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Beyond these, NAHRO members participated in the World Urban Forums in 2014 and 2016.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

NAHRO members have worked with the United Nations in the lead up to the Habitat III Conference. NAHRO, through its International Research and Global Exchange Committee (IRGE) had a senior committee member chosen to serve on the Urban Services and Technology Policy Unit.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

In the reporting period, NAHRO supported both the Millennium Development Goals and then the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that became effective in 2016. With regard to these goals, NAHRO's work as an NGO specializing in social housing and urban regeneration relates to SDGs numbers 1, 5, 8 and 11. 1. Reducing poverty; NAHRO members administer 2,683 assisted housing agencies with 7.9 million low income occupants. This housing is a major bulwark against poverty and homelessness. 5. Gender equality: a number of NAHRO agencies have specialized housing, counseling and support services for formerly incarcerated or homeless women and single mothers. 8. Economic growth: NAHRO promotes and agency members develop a myriad of economic development programs. Some deal with generating

employment of lower income persons and others address support increased economic activity in both urban and rural areas. 11. Human Settlements: As the industry devoted to decent housing and a suitable living environment, NAHRO is the premier American NGO advocating for affordable housing, viable and vibrant human settlements.

## **5. National Council of Women of Malta**

(Special; 2005)

### **Introduction**

NCW Malta is a voluntary organisation open to all women working in association with nationally affiliated organisations to improve the lives and opportunities for women. NCW Malta works within the framework of the United Nations Agenda for women, co-operating with women's organisations in Europe and world-wide via the International Council of Women and Commonwealth Women's Network.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Aims and purposes of the organization These remain unchanged: to improve the quality of life for all; to promote equality of opportunity for women; to remove discrimination against women; to exchange information and ideas, formulate policies, educate and promote the effective participation of women in decision-making.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

NCW Malta representatives participated in the Annual Sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in 2013, 2015 and 2016, reporting back to affiliated organisations, and adopting Policy Resolutions related to the CSW Agenda for presentation to the Government. Reports of CSW sessions are published in the NCW Malta Newsletter for members and affiliated organisations. NCW Malta supports the work of the Commission on the Status of Women, including the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals also matters arising under CEDAW by means of (i) Policy Resolutions ratified at NCW Malta Annual General Meeting, (ii) Seminars organised nationally by NCW Malta, and (iii) through submissions and reports to the Government in response to events or to Government consultation papers.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

As NCW Malta is a member of the International Council of Women we share the reports from Representatives to the UN in New York, United States, Geneva, Switzerland, Vienna, Austria, Rome, Italy, and HABITAT.

Major Initiatives undertaken by NCW Malta included: 2013 – Awareness raising aimed for men on Domestic Violence at workshops supported by the American Embassy which led to the setting up of “Men Against Violence” In 2014 – Participated in: Protect women and girls from gender based violence including female genital mutilation. In 2015 – a) Resolution sent to relevant authorities ‘Protection of Refugee Children’. B) Conference on ‘Gender Pay Gap’ in March, 2016 – Addressing the rights of Women with Disabilities held in January.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

NCW Malta organised: 2013 – a) Resolution ‘Women and Climate Change’ b) Press Conference ‘ Women in Political Decision-Making’ Vote for Women c) Public Dialogue ‘Women on Board – Yes but How?’ D) Talk ‘Keeping your Brain Healthy’ on Alzheimer’s. 2014 – Celebration, 50th Anniversary conferences “Women- Building Blocks of Society” including speakers from Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR). 2015 – a) Talk on eating disorders; b) Resolution: Cooperation in preventing and deterring undeclared work. c) Strategy for the prevention and reduction of food waste. 2016 – a) Resolution based on outcomes of the Women’s Forum: Sustainable Development and Gender Equality: Improving the quality of life for all women beyond 2015.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Reports and Submissions to the Government of Malta included: a) A holistic approach to migration – the situation of women asylum seekers. b) Course for vulnerable groups on the ‘Reduction of Poverty through Personal and Social Development. c) International Day of the Girl NCW Malta representative joined Women of the World in speed mentoring of London Girls from 11 to 18 years. d)The second evaluation of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) of the Council of Europe took place. e) NCW Malta

General Secretary who is also ICW Vice-President attended the ICW Executive Committee Meeting in Taipei, Taiwan, Province of China, with the theme ‘Transforming Society through Women’s Empowerment’ which was also the theme at the May General Assembly of the ICW European Region in Moscow, Russia, where NCW Malta was also represented. f) In July NCW Malta participated in a Commonwealth Seminar on Governance and Sustainable Development – Agenda 2030 of the Sustainable Development Goals and also participated at a Commonwealth Summit of Women Leaders. G) In April NCW Malta bestowed on the Hon General Secretary Honorary Life Membership.

## **6. National Council on Family Relations**

(Special; 2005)

### **Introduction**

The National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) is the world's premier professional organization for the multidisciplinary understanding of families. Founded in 1938, its members are family researchers, educators, and practitioners in many countries. It: a) publishes three scholarly journals - the Journal of Marriage and Family, Family Relations: Interdisciplinary Journal of Applied Family Science, and the Journal of Family Theory and Review; b) holds an annual conference; and c) confers a professional credential in family life education– the Certified Family Life Educator.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The National Council on Family Relations provides an educational forum for family researchers, educators, and practitioners to share in the development and dissemination of knowledge about families and family relationships, establishes professional standards, and works to promote family well-being.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The National Council on Family Relations supports the work of the United Nations in two primary ways: 1) with the participation by its two representatives and 2) by publicizing United Nations news in the e-newsletter Zippy.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The National Council on Family Relations has two representatives that participate in and present at annual United Nations events. Examples include: Representatives attended the 54th session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD54) organized by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs Division for Social Policy and Development at the United

Nations Headquarters in New York, United States, from 3 to 12 February 2016. Representatives were invited to present at The Focal Point on the Family in the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) of the Department of Economic and Social affairs (UNDESA) organized an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on “Family policies and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda,” held 12 to 13 May 2016 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. Representative one’s paper presentation was titled “National Council on Family Relations - Overview.” Representative two’s paper presentation was titled “Improving Health and Well-being by Promoting Gender Equality and Empowerment: The Need for a Family Centred Implementation of the New Sustainable Development Goals 1-5.”

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

No cooperation was specified.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The National Council on Family Relations’ Annual Conference often includes sessions highlighting the Millennial Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals. Example: Using the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals as a framework, the purpose of the 2016 annual conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States of America — themed "Families and Human Rights: Promise and Vulnerability in the 21st Century" — addressed human rights in the pursuit of equality and justice for all families.

## **7. National Union of Jurists of Cuba, The**

(Special; 1997)

### **Introduction**

Unión Nacional de Juristas de Cuba (UNJC) is a non- governmental, non-profit, self-financed Organization of Law practitioners having a scientific, professional and academic profile and being in consultative and legal status, established on June 8, 1977 pursuant to Article 7 of the Constitution of the Republic. UNJC has over 16,000 voluntary members nationwide who abide by its Code of Ethics and its Rules and Regulations.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The main purpose of our Organization is to contribute to the scientific, technical and professional development of its members. The Board of Directors is elected in a Congress held every 5 years and supported by 10 scientific associations that cover every branch of Law practice and whose members rely on their experience, vast scientific and professional knowledge and qualification to guarantee the development of all national and international academic, scientific and professional activities undertaken and events held by UNJC every year.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

Increase in the number of members to 17398: 7561 men and 10108 women

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

- International Conferences on Women, Gender and Law, 2014, 2016
- International Meetings and Seminars on Public International Law and International Humanitarian Law, organized by the Cuban International Law Bar Association, 2013, 2015
- International Meetings on Labor Law, Social Security and of the union movements, organized by the Cuban Labor Law and Social Security Bar Association, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
- Project Gender and Law- “Justice in the Key of Gender: Guarantee of Women and Men Equality” Lines of action:

- Actions for strengthening capacities in jurists from the East of the country, for the introduction of a gender perspective in sexual and reproductive rights in law practice. Since 2014, supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
  - Actions for strengthening capacities in jurists for the introduction of a gender perspective in the approach to the prevention of violence and the peace culture in law practice. Since 2014, supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
  - Specializing Course on Mediation, Gender and Family supported by SDC and OXFAM, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
  - Active Participation in the Secretary-General's campaign against violence against women and girls
- Joint actions with the Cuban Association of the United Nations for the elimination of the commercial and financial blockade imposed by the government of the United States on Cuba, on Human Rights, migration, human trafficking and smuggling, gender, International Humanitarian Law, military bases and integration.
  - Meetings with officers of United Nations bodies, like the Representative of the Red Cross International and Regional Committee of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), from UNFPA
  - Existence of 8 Departments on International Humanitarian Law in Universities on the country
  - Specializing courses on Refugees, inclusion of this subject in the curricula of International Public Law Master Studies.
  - Joint training actions and meetings of the Cuban Computer Law Bar Association and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
  - Training actions of the ECOIURE Section of Environmental Law of the Cuban Constitutional and Administrative Law Bar Association with impact on the community and the environmental education of children and teenagers.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

- Sessions 58, 59, 60 of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), United Nations Office at New York

-Sessions of the Human Rights Council, 2013, 2015

-Regional Social Forum, Panama 2015

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- Participation in the Universal Periodic Review of Cuba, 2013

- Presentation of the Report on Cuba to the Experts Committee of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Geneva, Switzerland, July 2013

- Presentation of the Report on Cuba to the Experts Committee of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRPD), Geneva 2015

- Meeting with Regional delegation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

- Members of the NGO working team under the coordination of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for writing of the Report on Cuba for the Universal Periodic Review of 2013

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

- Our Organization has an action plan to support MDGs, aimed at training for their wider spreading and implementation in the legal sector and their contribution to the population's legal education:

- Cuban Agricultural Law Bar Association: food security and sustainable agriculture
- Project Gender and Law: gender, prevention of violence, masculinities, peace culture and support to the knowledge of women and girls about their rights
- Cuban Computer Law Bar Association: ICT access and knowledge
- ECOIURE Section: fostering of an environmental law culture
- Cuban International Law Bar Association: International Humanitarian Law
- Cuban Labor Law and Social Security Bar Association: Labor Law, full employment, violence at the workplace, union rights
- Cuban Criminal Sciences Association: human trafficking and smuggling

## **8. National Youth Council of Russia**

(Special; 2009)

### **Introduction**

The National Council was established on the initiative of 8 youth organizations on January 10 in 1992. National Youth Council of Russia contains more than 60 youth organizations — all-Russian inter-regional public children and youth organization, regional associations (round tables) of youth and children associations.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The main aim of National Youth Council of Russia is to support and coordinate activities of Russian youth and children organisations in order to encourage protection and realization of their interests as well as rights of children and youth.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

According to the adopted on March 26, 2014 new edition of the Charter, the list of organizations eligible for membership in the National Youth Council of Russia was enlarged.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

National Youth Council of Russia continues to implement the "UN Youth Delegate Program" in Russia thus giving an opportunity for young representatives of the Russian civil society to be included in the Russian official delegation and to participate in the meetings of the United Nations, ensuring that the voice of the Russian youth is heard on the United Nations level. Moreover, NYCR through cooperation with the United Nations Information Center in Moscow translates the UN youth agenda and Agenda-2030 on the national level in its projects and activities.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

2015: Representative attended the 38th session of UNESCO General Conference, Paris, France, November 2015. 2016: Representatives attended the 7th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, Baku, Azerbaijan, April 2016. 2016: NYCR and UN

Information Center in Moscow organized a round-table “Role of youth in implementation of Agenda-2030” at the UN Representation in Russia on the International Youth Day, Moscow, Russia, August 2016.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Cooperation with the United Nations Information Center in Moscow. National Youth Council of Russia is heading the National Preparatory Committee of the 19th World Festival of Youth and Students that will take place in Sochi, Russia, on October 14-22, 2017. Previously cooperating with the UN SG’s Envoy on Youth Ahmad Alhedawi on the matter of the upcoming Festival, today we are ready to continue the collaboration with the UN and its institutions on this issue through interaction with a new Envoy soon to be appointed.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

National Youth Council of Russia is actively working on the Goals 5 “Gender equality” and 11 “Sustainable cities and communities” of Agenda-2030. National Youth Council of Russia is calling for young women to participate in the life of the society and work of the civil society, encouraging them, among other things, to participate in the work and events of the National Youth Council of Russia and its member organizations, ensuring fair treatment and gender balance in all cases. One of the key areas of work of the National Youth Council of Russia is education, both formal and non-formal. In the framework of different projects, joint trainings with the Council of Europe we raise up the issues of human rights and gender equality. Moreover, NYCR has several member organizations implementing New Urban Agenda in its work and activities.

## **9. Negev Coexistence Forum**

(Special; 2013)

### **Introduction**

The Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality (NCF) is a small, grassroots organization established in 1997 by a group of Arab and Jewish residents of the Negev-Naqab, Israel, who were alarmed by the government's discriminatory policies and practices towards its Arab-Bedouin citizens. Since then, NCF works to protect the human rights of the Bedouin communities in the Naqab. The Arab Bedouin are Israeli citizens and an indigenous minority group, residing primarily in the southern Negev-Naqab region of the country. As a remote and less-populated region in Israel, the Negev-Naqab suffers from a lack of proper infrastructure and social services. While both Jewish and Arab Bedouin populations are significantly affected, the latter also deals with challenging State policies that lead to displacement, severe poverty and frequent rights abuses. Out of roughly 240,000 in total, one half lives in the seven state-designed towns and the other half in eleven recognized and thirty-five unrecognized villages. Although the indigenous Bedouin communities have lived on this land for centuries, or were told in other cases to relocate to those places by state representatives, the state of Israel fails to recognize their historic rights and thousands of them live in harsh conditions – deprived of access to basic services like water electricity and more, in the unrecognized villages, and from other social services (education or health) in the discriminated recognized towns and villages. Whether recognized or not, Arab Bedouin villages receive little to no basic services from the State and are at constant risk of demolition. As a result, the Arab Bedouins are one of the most marginalized communities in Israel.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

NCF works to eliminate the state of Israel's civil, economic, social and cultural discrimination towards the Indigenous Arab Bedouin citizens by providing a framework for a joint Arab-Jewish struggle for equality. NCF publishes reports highlighting institutionalized discrimination; advocates nationally and internationally; raises public awareness to the cause; facilitate programs aimed at communities' and women's self-advocacy, empowerment and documentation; run Jewish-Arab cultural center.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

NCF participates in UN committees' sessions in Geneva, Switzerland, in order to amplify work and cooperation with UN bodies. In October 2014 NCF filed a NGO respond to the state of Israel human rights review in October 2014.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representative attended the 6th, 7th and 9th sessions of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Geneva on 8-12/7/2013; 7-11/7/2014 and 11-15/7/2016 consecutively.

Representative participated in the High Commissioner for Human Rights Indigenous Fellowship Programme in 2016.

NCF's team with special repertoires on numerous occasions.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

September 2014 – NCF filed a Joint NGO response to the State of Israel's replies to the UN HRC's ICCPR List of Issues regarding the Bedouin community. In December 2016 NCF filled a progress questionnaire following a request from Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

MDG #3 and SDG #5 are met through gender sensitive analysis at all levels of the organization, and through self-advocacy photography program for indigenous women. All of NCF's actions act under the goal of promoting equality for the Bedouin communities as for SDG #10. NCF advocates rights described in the International Convent on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. This includes advocacy missions, art exhibitions, reports and vigils in aim to reduce poverty and eradicate hunger (MDGs #1, SDG #1-2). And for equality in health (MDGs #4-6, SDG #3); education (MDG #2, SDGs #4; employment (SDG #8) and access to water (SDG #6).

## **10. Netherlands Association of Women's Interests, Women's Work and Equal Citizenship**

(Special; 2001)

### **Introduction**

The Netherlands Association for Women's Interests, Women's Work and Equal Citizenship ('Vrouwenbelangen') was founded in 1894 as an association for women's suffrage. It is affiliated with the International Alliance of Women (IAW), which it cofounded in 1904.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Today Vrouwenbelangen is an advocacy organization for equal power and influence of both genders in decision making in all fields of society to shape their own future and the future of the society and realizing de facto women's human rights. It writes and supports petitions on women's rights nationally and internationally. Its members participate in public debates, cooperate with other women's organizations and hold meetings to raise awareness of prejudices, customs and practices that perpetuate the unequal distribution of power, rights, opportunities and responsibilities of men and women.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The president and other members of Vrouwenbelangen engaged actively in organizing meetings, in lobbying and in public debate, spreading and reactivating the knowledge and use of the Human Rights Treaties, especially the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). The Editor of the internet site of Vrouwenbelangen follows and spreads specifically the international news related to the work of the United Nations.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Members of Vrouwenbelangen, in cooperation with members of the International Alliance of

Women, took part in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York, United States, in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. At these meetings they organized side events in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. Some examples are a side event in 2013 on Birth Registration, a target in the Sustainable Development Goals; a side event on the economic needs of women in 2015; side event on Equal Nationality Rights for women/girls. A number of members attended the NGO CSW committee in Geneva, Switzerland, at the special event in November 2015. The Editor of the international news on the internet site of Vrouwenbelangen took part in meetings on the Millennium Development Goals.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In 2014 the president and members of Vrouwenbelangen participated in the preparation of a shadow report as well in meeting on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). And attended the meetings of the Committee.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Vrouwenbelangen continues to include the MDG's and since 2015 the SDG's in all its work implicitly. In 2013 in a letter to the members of the government in a letter the president advocated strongly for implementation of the concluding observations of the CEDAW Committee. In 2015 Vrouwenbelangen intervened in proposed legislation on entrepreneurship as the proposal suffered from gender bias; our intervention resulted in the cancellation of the proposed law. Vrouwenbelangen became a signatory organization to both the 2nd and 3rd Dutch National Action Plan.

## **11. Network for Women's Rights in Ghana**

(Special; 2013)

### **Introduction**

The Network for Women's Rights in Ghana (NETRIGHT) is a network of civil society organisations and individuals who have a clear interest in working together to bring a gender perspective into national processes and advocate for policy change to strengthen women's human rights.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

NETRIGHT aims to promote women's rights in Ghana by working to bring a gender perspective in national policy processes and content in ways that strengthen the policy environment for achieving a gender equal society.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

Our membership now stands at 74 organizations and over 150 individual members across Ghana.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

From 2013 to 2016, NETRIGHT contributed to United Nations work through the observance of the International Women's Day each year and statements issued based on themes by the UN Women taking into account the national theme. NETRIGHT organised three consultative meetings across the country in November and December 2014 for women's rights organisations (WROs) on Beijing+20 Review and Post 2015 Agenda in Ghana which fed into the production of the Ghana NGOs Beijing+20 Review Shadow Report. In June 2015, NETRIGHT organised a national Financing for Development (FfD) forum to discuss key messages by women's groups in Ghana. The outcome document of the national FfD forum was consolidated into the key messages by women's groups at the Addis Ababa meeting in July 2015. Furthermore, NETRIGHT contributed to CSOs including women's rights organisations (WROs) processes to influence the SDGs and FfD processes in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and New York, United States, in 2015 by providing inputs for key messages by the

Africa and global women's movement to these processes. NETRIGHT shares the outcomes of the sessions of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW) with its members and tracks implementation at the national level. NETRIGHT reviews the situation of women in Ghana every year as part of interventions by the organisation to track Beijing and other international, regional and national commitments on women's rights, women's empowerment and gender equality.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

NETRIGHT participated in the 57th, 58th, 59th and 60th sessions of the UN CSW and organised side events on the following themes:

Assessing efforts at confronting Gender-Based Violence and the implications for Women's Rights, March 8, 2013 at Salvation Army, 221 East 52nd Street, NY 10022.

The Role of Women's Rights Organisations: Twenty years after Beijing, March 12, 2015 at 10th Floor, Church Centre, NY.

Inclusive Partnership and Sustainable Development: Localising the Global Goals to protect women's livelihoods, March 17, 2016 at the Thai Cultural Centre, 310, 44th Street, NY.

A NETRIGHT representative participated in a meeting on 'Tackling Inequalities and Promoting Structural Transformation in Africa' organised by the UN Millennium Campaign and UNDP's Regional Service Centre for Africa at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from February 10-13, 2014.

NETRIGHT participated in national level processes by UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and FAO during 2013 and 2016. The organisation contributes to regional and global level UN processes through its membership on the Women's Major Group, Women's Working Group for Financing for Development, FfD CSO Group and UN DCF CSO Group among others.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

No cooperation was specified.

### **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

During the period, under review, NETRIGHT strengthened capacity of women groups at the community level to engage duty bearers and critical local actors for improved livelihoods as

part of its interventions to promote gender equality and poverty eradication. In 2014, nationwide consultative meetings were organised to review the MDGs. The organisation also contributed to regional and global level processes on MDGs including a meeting attended by the Programme Manager on 'Advancing the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda organised by the Berlin Civil Society Centre in Bonn, Germany, from March 20-22, 2013.

## **12. New Humanity**

(General; 2005)

### **Introduction**

New Humanity, an international nongovernmental organization, has general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The purpose of New Humanity is to improve the economic and social conditions of people in all societies according to the spirit of unity and solidarity inspired by the Focolare Movement. Its members promote dialogue and unity in many fields of social endeavor.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

- Through the United World project, Youth for a United World (New Humanity's youth section) promotes the ideals of universal fraternity following the "Golden Rule," and the way of "Ubuntu."
- 'Sharing with Africa' offers youth a chance to participate in an exchange between different cultures.
- The Youth Dice Project, co-financed by the European Union through the Youth in Action Program, provides transnational opportunities to youth for informal learning and community participation.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

2013:

Geneva, Switzerland - Human Rights Council (HRC)

Joint Written Statements

22nd Session: Pediatric prevention of HIV A/HRC/22/NGO/83, 18 February 2013.

24th Session: Right to development A/HRC/24/NGO/46, 30 August 2013.

New Humanity opinion paper entitled “Global Program for Education in Human Rights” re: resolution 21/14.

2014:

Geneva – Human Rights Council (HRC)

Joint Written Statements

25th Session: Realization of all Human rights, A/HRC/25/NGO/5, 19 February 2014.

26th Session: International Solidarity, A/HRC/26/NGO/32, 3 June 2014.

26th Session: Right to Education, A/HRC/26/NGO/67, 5 June 2014.

27th Session: Protection of the Family, A/HRC/27/NGO/56, 27 August 2014.

27th Session: Right to Development, A/HRC/27/NGO/60, 27 August 2014.

26th Session Joint Side Event: Human rights and International solidarity - Professor Angeles Cano, New Humanity, expert panelist.

2015:

Geneva - Human Rights Council (HRC)

Joint Statements:

28th Session Joint Written Statement: Right to Peace, A/HRC/28/NGO/150, 27 February 2015.

28th Session Joint Oral Statement: Protection of the family.

30th Session Joint Oral Statement: Right to Education and Right to Development.

29th Session Joint Side Event: Human Rights and International Solidarity, Professor Esther Salamanca, New Humanity panelist, International Solidarity & Extra-territorial Human Rights Obligations.

New York, United States

- Attended Commission on Social Development, CSocD54 and World Summit on Information Society WSIS+10 and submitted paper.

- Commented on draft outcome document, United Nations General Assembly’s Overall Review of the Implementation of World Summit on Information Society Outcomes, 4 November 2015.

2016:

Geneva - Human Rights Council (HRC)

## Joint Written Statements

31st Session: Right to development, A/HRC/31/NGO/145, 25 February 2016.

31st Session: Protection of the family, A/HRC/31/NGO/110, 19 February 2016.

## Joint Oral Statements:

32nd Session: Human Rights and International Solidarity

33rd Session: Right to development

17th Session of Open Ended Working Group on Right to Development

Other: Responded to Survey on Right to Development requested by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

## New York

- October 2016, New Humanity submitted a paper to Economic and Social Council for the 2017 Commission on the Status of Women entitled, “Economic Empowerment of Indigenous Women.” E/CN.6/2017/NGO/78
- October 2016, New Humanity submitted a paper to Economic and Social Council for the 2017 Commission on Social Development entitled, “The Economy of Communion in Freedom Model: Financial Sustainability, Productive Inclusion and Global Fraternity in the Fight Against Poverty.” E/CN.5/2016/L.1
- Member, Non-Governmental Organization Committees on Migration, Financing for Development, Social Development, and Freedom of Religion or Belief.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In April 2015, Maria Voce, president of the Focolare Movement, accepted an invitation by the Alliance of Civilizations to serve as a panelist at the High-Level Thematic Debate of the United Nations General Assembly on Promoting Tolerance and Reconciliation representing the Focolare Movement and New Humanity. Voce’s presentation was entitled Reinventing Peace.

## **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

- New Humanity works on information technology capacity building projects in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and Latin America to reduce poverty and promote socio-economic development.
- Assist people on Tarawa Island, Republic of Kiribati, plagued by rising seas due to climate

change.

- Worldwide Support for Children at a Distance Project.
- Germany: Contecta GmbH, a New Humanity business received an award for energy innovation.
- Economy of Communion Project – 800 businesses, 55 countries.
- Bangko Kabayan Rural Bank, The Philippines, offering microfinance recognized by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Hall of Fame.
- Support for refugees, migrants, and internally displaced persons in Middle East.
- Organized Conference on Environmental Law, Responsibility and Participation. Rome, Italy, December, 2015.

### **13. New Zealand Family Planning Association, Inc.**

(Special; 2005)

#### **Introduction**

Founded in 1936, New Zealand Family Planning (Family Planning) is a non-government organisation providing clinical, educative and policy services to achieve sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. Family Planning's geographical focus is in New Zealand and the Pacific region. In addition, the organisation engages in advocacy activities at the international level.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Family Planning is the only organisation with a specific focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights in New Zealand. Family Planning promotes sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and enables people to enjoy respectful sexual relationships and create healthy families. Drawing upon Family Planning's long history and strong reputation of technical expertise in clinical services and health promotion, the organisation's international programmes unit strives to advance the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action (PoA) in the Pacific Islands through projects, advocacy and research.

Family Planning's projects supports partner organisations in the Pacific to provide quality information and services to their communities. Through advocacy, the organisation works to create supportive environments, build effective policy and ensure adequate funding for sexual and reproductive health priorities. In addition, Family Planning undertakes quantitative and qualitative research in the region to build a strong evidence base for advocacy and projects.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Over the past four years, Family Planning has been actively involved in advancing internationally agreed development goals in New Zealand and the Pacific region, including

the ICPD PoA, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Examples include:

1. International projects that work to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights in the Pacific region, including the Kiribati Healthy Families Project (2012-2020) funded by the New Zealand Aid Programme.
2. Research projects, including the publication of a journal article in the Pacific Journal for Reproductive Health in 2016.
3. Advocacy work, including hosting the Secretariat for the New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development (NZPPD).

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

2013: Commission on Population and Development, 46th session, 22-26 April 2013, New York, United States. Family Planning attended as a member of the New Zealand delegation.

2013: 6th Asia Pacific Population Conference, 16-20 September 2013, Bangkok, Thailand. Family Planning attended as a member of the New Zealand delegation.

2014: Commission on Population and Development, 47th session, 7-11 April 2014, New York, USA. Family Planning attended as a member of the New Zealand delegation.

2015: Commission on Population and Development, 48th session, 13-17 April 2015, New York, USA. Family Planning attended as a member of the New Zealand delegation. Family Planning also attended as a civil society representative and made a joint oral statement with the Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (APA).

2016: Commission on Population and Development, 49th session, 11-15 April 2016, New York, USA. Family Planning attended as a member of the New Zealand delegation.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA): UNFPA funds Family Planning to host the Secretariat for NZPPD. In addition, in 2015 UNFPA's Sub Regional Office of the Pacific and Family Planning worked together to host a NZPPD Open Hearing on engaging men and boys in sexual and reproductive health.

World Health Organisation (WHO): In 2015, Family Planning was contracted by WHO to contribute towards the Global Abortion Policy Project (GAPP). Family Planning reviewed

abortion laws and policies for 23 countries/states/territories in the Pacific region.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Family Planning's international programmes unit directly contributes towards the advancement of the MDGs and SDGs, particularly SDG three and five. Examples include:

- In 2015, Family Planning led the "Voices from the Pacific" project to develop advocacy strategies around the national implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Tuvalu and Papua New Guinea.
- In 2016, NZPPD and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) hosted over 30 delegates from nine Pacific countries for a two-day workshop focused on the SDGs. As the Secretariat for NZPPD, Family Planning was actively involved in the organisation of this event and was invited to present.
- In 2016, Family Planning co-hosted the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Conference Aotearoa New Zealand in 2016, including a plenary session focused on the SDGs.

## **14. Nigerian Institute of Homeopathy, The**

(Special; 2005)

### **Introduction**

The Nigerian Institute of Homoeopathy was established in 1980 in Enugu Nigeria. Fifty new professional members were added, making it a total of 5,500 members.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization aims to promote Homeopathy and other forms of alternative medicines and to support the work of the United Nations through publicity and participation.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The 'NIH' dedicated much of her time and efforts during this reporting period to enlighten the public and publicize the UN special days and events through the institute's journal, mass media and observing the following UN days and events:

1. World Health Day -7th April.

Topic - Public Health Challenges in Africa. Malaria, HIV/AIDS. Participants - 3,500.

2. World Environmental Day - 5th June.

Topic - Depletion of Ozone Layer and its global consequences. Participants - 5,000

3. Day of the African Child - 16th June

Topic- Role of African Governments in protecting the rights of African Children. Participants - 8000

4. International Literacy Day - 8th September

Topic- Youth/Child hawkers - A Setback to literacy in Africa. Participants - 4,800

5. United Nations Day - 24th October

Topic - UN, as the Global Peace Maker. Participants 15,000

6. World Food Day -16th October.

Participated in Exhibition sponsored by FAO/Federal Government of Nigeria at Abuja.

## **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

No participation was specified.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The NIH collaborated with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health to erect an ORT Center at Enugu Main Market for market users. The NIH runs the center and pays the health workers till date. The NIH collaborated with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and WHO to give free immunization to Nigerian Children. Beneficiaries - 1.5 million Children.

## **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

1. Reduction of Extreme Poverty and Hunger. The NIH fed school children from poor families with balanced diet, through her 'feeding of the poorest of the poor school project'.

Venue - Calvary Foundation School, Enugu, Nigeria.

Beneficiaries - 25,000 children.

2. Universal Primary Education:

Award of scholarships to indigent children. Organizing capacity training for nursery and primary school teachers on 15/2/13, 5/2/14, 7/2/15 and 8/2/16.

3. Improvement of Maternal Health:

Free Medicare to distressed women from January to December at Calvary Foundation Hospital, Enugu. Beneficiaries - 48,000.

4. Reduction of Infant Mortality and Communicable Diseases:

Provision of immunization to 3,000 pregnant mothers and babies at the Calvary Foundation Hospital, Enugu from January to December.

## **15. Nonviolence International**

(Special; 2005)

### **Introduction**

Nonviolence International was founded in 1989 with the intent of providing assistance to individuals, organizations and governments seeking nonviolent means to bring about social and political change.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

We envision strengthening people's capacity to use the power of nonviolence as a means to bring about change that reflect the truth, justice and the desire for human development on personal, social, economic and political levels. In order to act on this philosophy, we provide general educational materials on nonviolence from all traditions, as well as strategy sessions and training for activists and organizers through the coordination of teams of international experts. Nonviolence International provides a core group of international nonviolent action specialists to groups or governments seeking alternative possibilities for peace. Nonviolence International cooperates with other nonviolence, peace and conflict resolution organizations internationally in order to work together towards a common goal.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Nonviolence International contributes to the work of the United Nations through its active participation in certain meetings and through direct cooperation with United Nations bodies as listed below.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Nonviolence International was part of the NGO networks lobbying for an Arms Trade Treaty, and in that role representatives of Nonviolence International attended the 1st Arms Trade Treaty Preparatory Meeting, Trinidad and Tobago, 23-24 February 2015; Final Preparatory

Meeting for the First Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, Switzerland, 6-8 July 2015; the 1st Conference of States Parties on the Arms Trade Treaty, Mexico, 24-27 August 2015; and the 2nd Conference of States Parties on the Arms Trade Treaty, Switzerland, 22-26 August 2016.

A representative of Nonviolence International also participated as part of the IANSA network at the Fifth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider Implementation of the PoA (BMS5) took place in New York 16-20 June 2014.

Nonviolence International attended the Meetings of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, including 13MSP, in Geneva, Switzerland, 2-5 December 2013; 14 MSP, in Geneva, from 30 November to 4 December 2015 and 15 MSP, in Chile from 28 November to 1 December 2016 as well as the conventions Third Review Conference, Mozambique from 23-27 July 2014. At these meetings.

Nonviolence International attended the Meetings of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, including 4MSP, in Zambia 9-13 September 2013, 5MSP, in San Jose, Costa Rica from 2-5 September 2014; and 6MSP, 5-7 September 2016 as well as the conventions First Review Conference, in Croatia, 7-11 September 2015. At both MBT and CCM meetings Nonviolence International lobbied states regarding interpretations or compliance with certain Articles and also lobbied observer states to join the Convention.

Nonviolence International attended several regional or preparatory meetings for the above.

Nonviolence International organized delegation which attended the 30th Session Human Rights Council in Geneva in October 2015, and the 31st Session Human Rights Council in Geneva in March 2016. Both delegations provided information to the council regarding the situation in certain states in respect to the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Nonviolence International organized side events at the UN building as a part of these delegations.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

NI cooperated with and answered requests for consultations with some United Nations agencies, including UNICEF (consultation on Mine Risk Education), UN DSS (consultation on Mine Safety Briefings), UNHCR (consultation on landmine and return). A representative

of Nonviolence International was asked by UNDP to serve on an informal selection committee for UNDP's sponsorship programme for all Arms Trade Treaty-related events.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

NI does not organize programs contributing to the direct alleviation of poverty, however its activities to reduce the harm caused by armed conflict, in particular landmines and small arms, is a prerequisite for sustainable development in conflict affected areas, and indirectly alleviate or prevent poverty in certain forms.